14th November 1922]

The Russellkonda Saw Mills.

473 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(1) to state:

(*a*) the quantity of timber in cubic feet which was operated on at the Russellkonda Saw Mills from the date of commencement of the mills till the end of September 1922, and the cost thereof;

(*b*) the quantity in cubic feet of timber turned out as finished product from out of the timber mentioned in (*a*), and the estimated or realized cost thereof;

(*c*) the establishment charges and other working expenses for producing the quantity referred to in (*b*);

(2) to furnish a classified list of articles produced from the mills, and to state whether such articles were produced with reference to any orders previously placed or demands previously made; and

(3) to state, if any, the sources of demand for timber produced in the mills, and to classify the demand as follows:—

(1) from Government;
(2) from private agencies;
(3) from the Madras Presidency; and
(4) from outside?

A.—(1) (*a*) 51,542 cubic feet, including sawings, before the completion of the mill.

(*b*) 15,150 cubic feet at an approximate cost of Rs. 45,655.

(*c*) Rs. 31,178.

(2) No articles, with the exception of a few saw guards and other mill necessaries, have been produced. The timber has been sawn into scantlings.

(3) Demands for sawn timber have been made from the four sources mentioned.

Salt inspector of the Ganjām Circle.

474 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact that the present salt inspector in charge of Ganjām circle had already served in that circle for about five seasons from 1915 to 1920;

(2) whether, in the year 1918, certain abandoned pans in the said Ganjām circle were worked under *amani* and that resulted in loss to Government; if so, at whose instance the work was undertaken;

(3) whether, in working these abandoned pans, regular musters were maintained and vouchers secured for paying the *coolies* and for incurring expenditure for stores;

(4) whether any complaints were received from coolies about non-receipt of their wages in connexion with the said *amani* work;

(5) whether it is a fact that in the year 1918–19 the salt inspector held auctions at Humma for inland and home salt on one and the same day, and whether such action by the salt inspector was likely to favour the home-salt merchants and affect the interests of the inland-salt merchans prejudicially;

(6) whether it is a fact that the salt inspector was transferred to Calingapatam circle in 1920;